

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1482
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
LISBON SUMMIT MEETINGS
BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) The gains accruing to India on account of Lisbon Summit meeting with the European Union held in June, 2000 with special reference to trade, diplomatic relationship and international understanding;
- (b) Whether these gains have been achieved collectively or individually with European Union members;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these gains are based on mutual give and take; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

a) The India-EU Summit held in Lisbon on June 28, 2000 enabled both sides to review bilateral, regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest. The EU-India Summit Joint Declaration provides a blue print for upgrading the relationship to a qualitatively higher level and forging a new strategic partnership in the 21st Century. On the political front it fosters regular interaction at different levels and calls for strengthening cooperation to combat terrorism and its inter-linkages with international drug trafficking. It also provides for a strengthening of dialogue between intellectuals and civil society through institutional mechanisms such as EU-India Round Table. On the economic and commercial side, it envisages enhanced high level economic and commercial dialogue and fosters joint initiatives in the fields of technology and communications.

(b), (c), (d) & (e) The outcome of the Summit represented collective views of all the 15 member States of the European Union and those of India and are of mutual benefit. The Summit laid down the broad policy outlines for future co-operation between India and the EU, based on shared interests and common perspectives on the issues outlined earlier. Detailed plans to implement the policy directives are being worked out at various levels including through the institution of regular Summits between India and the EU.